Proceeding: 02-6. For about 25 years I have been providing school districts with guidance on the most appropriate topology and infrastructure to meet their telecommunications needs. From the beginning, dark fiber has been the most cost effective and productive way to go. It is generally less expensive to lease than telco provided lit capacity. Telcos won't lease dark fiber because they prefer to lease partitioned bandth . Dark fiber allows schools the flexibility of getting more capacity when needed without worrying about increased monthly cost to do so.